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SUBJECT Interview with John Marks

TOM SNYDER: Tonight we have with us Mr. John Marks. Of all the startling revelations about the activities of the CIA brought to light during recent years, perhaps the most frightening of all the allegations have been charges of domestic mind control done to American citizens by the CIA. In his new book, John Marks writes -- "The Search for the Manchurian Candidate," he details how the CIA has experimented with hypnosis, with psychosurgery, electroshock, LSD, and other drugs on witting and unwitting Americans, and in some cases with very tragic results.

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SNYDER: Now here's Mr. John Marks, whose book is called "The Search for the Manchurian Candidate." He is a former State Department official, and he details how the CIA, as I said, has experimented with hypnosis, electroshock, drugs, psychosurgery, etcetera.

I want to go back to the beginning of the CIA's involvement with LSD, because it will mark a point in time from which we can start, and also it's a humorous story because they found out the Russians had made an order for LSD, too. So can we start there?

JOHN MARKS: Right. Well, back in the early 1950s the CIA heard of this new experimental drug called LSD, which was fantastically interesting because an infinitesimal amount, perhaps 1/1000 of an ounce, was enough to send a person into what seemed like a psychotic incident, a mental breakdown.